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18 June 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Conversation with Mr. Najeeb E. Halaby, Administrator,
Federal Aviation Agency 17 June 1963

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1. At the request of ☐ Chief, Security Staff, Office of Special Activities, and in connection with the forthcoming briefing of the Vice President on Project OXCART, I called Mr. Halaby to see what his recollection was of whether or not the Vice President had obtained any information officially or otherwise regarding the existence or status of Project OXCART.

2. Mr. Halaby said that while he could not assign a date or place for any actual awareness of OXCART on Mr. Johnson's part, he seemed to feel that he was aware of its existence in some form or another. Halaby said that it might have been mentioned in a three-way conversation between himself, the President, and the Vice President, presumable in the context of the supersonic transport question, but he could not be terribly positive.

3. Mr. Halaby said that he was certain that Mr. Johnson would be delighted to learn of the progress of OXCART, especially since he was a front runner among those proposing immediate action to implement the SST program.

4. The rest of the conversation dealt principally with Mr. Halaby's recent discussions with Mr. McCone in which the former requested a "think-piece" on CIA's method of contracting for IDEALIST and OXCART as a preliminary to a luncheon meeting between himself, Mr. McCone, and Mr. McNamara. I said that I would check with the DCI's office to determine the status of the requirement, and if we were directly involved, we would draw together such a paper for him.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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